

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A papermaking felt comprising a ground fabric layer composed of a woven fabric, and a fibrous web placed on at least one side of the ground fabric layer, the ground fabric layer and fibrous web being integrally intertwined by needling, and the ground fabric layer having a warp and weft, ~~each comprising one of which comprises winding yarns, wherein at least part of the yarns of the other of said~~ warp ~~or~~ and weft of the ground fabric layer consists of ~~straight yarns which are less flexible than the winding yarns which they cross and therefore relatively straight compared to said winding yarns which they cross.~~

2 (Currently Amended). A papermaking felt comprising a ground fabric layer comprising a woven fabric, and a fibrous web placed on at least one side of the ground fabric layer, the ground fabric layer and fibrous web being integrally intertwined by needling, and the ground fabric layer having a warp and weft, wherein the ground fabric layer includes additional straight yarns inserted along the warp ~~or~~ and weft of said woven fabric.

3 (Currently amended). A papermaking felt according to claim 2, in which said additional straight yarns are evenly distributed along said warp ~~or~~ and weft.

4 (Previously added). A papermaking felt according to claim 2, in which the number of said additional straight yarns is at least 40% of the number of yarns in the warp and weft of said woven fabric.